

Private Admonition -- Board Case No. 1002. **Date of Sanction: July 31, 1987.** Lawyer represented client at Justice of the Peace Court civil trial. Client advised Lawyer that he wished to appeal the court's decision. Lawyer failed to file an appeal. At the Board on Professional Responsibility hearing, Lawyer contended that the appeal was not filed because client failed to send Lawyer the filing fee for the appeal before the appeal period expired. However, the evidence established that prior to the running of the appeal period, Lawyer never calculated the appeal deadline and never communicated any deadline to client. A few days after the appeal period expired, client sent Lawyer a check to cover the filing fee for the appeal. However, Lawyer never returned the check or advised client, as requested, regarding the appeal. The Board concluded that Lawyer had violated **DLRPC 1.1**, in failing to properly calculate the appeal deadline and communicate that deadline to client. Lawyer also violated **DLRPC 1.4(a)**, in failing to keep a client reasonably informed and in failing to respond to a client's reasonable requests for information concerning the status of his appeal.